

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE
METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR FILTERING INTER-NODE COMMUNICATION
IN A DATA PROCESSING SYSTEM

5 A method and system for communication in a system
area network (SAN) data processing system are described.
The SAN includes a plurality of interconnected nodes that
each have at least one port for communication. To avoid
communication-induced errors that may arise, for example,
10 if multiple nodes share the same node ID, the port of a
node in the SAN is marked as "fenced" to prevent
transmission of packets of a first traffic type while
permitting transmission of packets of a second traffic
type. The marking of the port may be recorded, for
15 example, in a configuration register of the port. While
the port is fenced, only packets of other than the first
traffic type are routed via the port. In one preferred
embodiment, the second traffic type represents SAN
configuration traffic, and the first traffic type
20 represents non-configuration traffic. In this preferred
embodiment, the marking of the port may be removed
following communication of configuration traffic utilized
to negotiate unique node ID throughout the SAN.